Newspaper Reports Nixon Tax Figures

Post 10/4/73

President Nixon paid $1,670 in federal income taxes for the two-year period of 1970 and 1971, according to a report yesterday in The Providence Journal Bulletin.

The White House declined to confirm or deny the news story which the Rhode Island newspaper attributed to "documents provided by government sources."

"We have said before," said deputy press secretary Gerald Warren, "that we consider that the President's tax returns are private, just like any other citizen's, and we're not going to comment further."

According to the Providence account, written by Jack White, the President paid $792.81 in 1970 and $878.03 in 1971—equivalent to the taxes paid by a wage earner with one exemption who is in the $7,000 income bracket.

Mr. Nixon, who makes $200,000 a year as President, would be subject to a maximum tax rate of 50 per cent on his earned income, but deductions could reduce that substantially. If the figures cited by the Providence newspaper are correct, Mr. Nixon claimed enough deductions to reduce his tax obligation for those two years to less than one-half of 1 per cent of his gross income.

The California lawyer who handled Mr. Nixon's tax returns, Frank DeMarco Fr, yesterday referred inquiries to the White House counsel's office, which did not respond to repeated calls.

A Internal Revenue Service spokesman likewise refused to comment. He noted that it is against the law for an IRS official or any other government employe to reveal an individual citizen's income tax returns, except in the proper legal forums.